AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving ~~control operations from a source~~ a data packet containing hardware control data from an alert proxy external to a client device;

parsing the data packet to determine specified control operations;

determining a current operating state of said client device;

determining whether execution of said ~~received~~ specified control operations are permitted while said client device is in said determined operating state; and

executing said ~~received~~ specified control operations if said execution has been determined to be permitted.

2 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving externally provided control operations includes receiving a system reset operation.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving externally provided control operations includes receiving a system power operation.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said externally provided control operations are received from a server device coupled to said client device over a network.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said current operating state of said client device is determined by inspecting at least one status register on said client.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said control operations are permitted while said client device is in a system hung state.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said externally provided control operations are received via a network data packet encapsulated according to a remote management and control protocol (RMCP).

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a first electronic component;

a bus;

a sensor coupled to said bus and said first electronic component to sense events in said first electronic component; and

a second electronic component coupled to said bus to conditionally cause said first electronic component to perform a plurality of functions through said sensor, via said bus, responsive to control operations from a source external to the apparatus.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said first electronic component further comprises a reset pin, and wherein said second electronic component coupled to said bus conditionally causes said first electronic component to perform a reset function.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said first electronic component includes a processor.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said bus includes a system management bus.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a network controller.

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13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said external control operations are provided by a server device connected to said apparatus through said network controller.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

an operating system; and

a processor to execute said operating system.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said second electronic component conditionally causes said first electronic component to perform said plurality of functions prior to said operating system having been executed by said processor.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said externally provided control operations are encapsulated in a remote management and control protocol (RMCP) formed data packet.

✓17 – 23 (Withdrawn)

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✓24 – 26 (Canceled)